

Kevin D. Busse

5101 160th Street South East
Prior Lake, Minnesota 55372-2538

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Office of The Secretary, Room 222
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

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COMMENTS ON LPFM

I want to thank you for extending the comment period on the Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking on low power FM (LPFM) radio stations. I have been involved in radio broadcasting, as an announcer and music director, since 1982. I am very interested in bringing a LPFM station to my community of Prior Lake, located about 30-miles south southwest of Minneapolis. I have several comments on the Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking.

In regards to power and antenna height, I feel the 100-watt/30-meter (LP100) would be ideal (especially for a "suburban" community like Prior Lake). The 1-10 watt/1-2 mile radius would be excellent for neighborhoods with it's limited power and coverage area. However, I am concerned that the 1,000-watt/60-meter antenna height is a little *over-powered* for a "community" station, and I believe that "community" is what most of the LPFM operators would want to focus on.

I support the Commission's inclination not to apply most radio station service rules, due to the smaller size of the broadcast operation, and secondary status. Also, due to the low maximum power output and minimum range, 2nd adjacent channel protection would pose minimum risk of interference, but co-channel (same channel) and 1st adjacent channel protection should be required, to help prevent interference and complaints (real or imagined) from full-power radio stations.

Since a LPFM station might be considered a business, as operating costs are involved, stations should be allowed to generate revenue from advertising or underwriting. The population of a community like Prior Lake would sustain an advertising base. Of course, non-commercial and educational institutions (churches, schools, community groups, etc.) would be airing programming as well. If I were allowed to operate a LPFM station in Prior Lake, it would provide a variety of local services, with city, educational, religious, tourism, local news and information, etc., types of programming for the community.

Radio "pirates" who continued to operate after the Commission took action against them should not be considered for a LPFM license, but those that ceased operation after being advised by the Commission should be eligible.

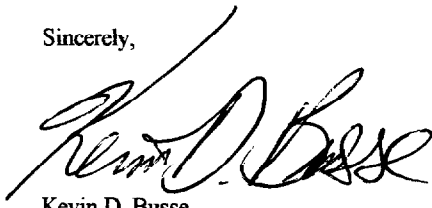
I support the Commission's inclination to not permit LPFM stations to operate as a translator station to re-transmit the programming of a full-power station, nor should current full-power station owners be allowed to purchase or operate the proposed LPFM stations under the same, or different, company name (for example: "Really Big Broadcasting Company," which owns one or more full-power radio stations, should not be allowed to own or operate LPFM stations under the assumed company name of "Really Little Broadcasting Company").

Since the focus appears to be on "community," I feel LPFM owners should only be allowed to own one LPFM station in the same community, and no more than five nationally. Personally, I would like to see the LPFM owner be living in the community the LPFM station serves, to guarantee the station will be community and local oriented in it's efficiency of operation.

For license applications, a longer window or a first-come, first-served procedure (for a given area) would be preferred, since not all LPFM applicants would be approved for LPFM ownership as they apply. This way, someone else still has the opportunity to apply even though a previous applicant was refused a license for a specific area.

Thank you very much for allowing me the opportunity to comment on the Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking on Low Power FM (LPFM) radio stations. I am very interested in what decisions the Commission makes concerning this proposal, as I feel that LPFM would be an excellent opportunity for an individual with an interest in radio broadcasting to get involved affordably, and perhaps (with advertising or underwriting) to make it a profitable business career.

Sincerely,



Kevin D. Busse

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